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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED
EXAMINING GROUP 1751**

**PATENT
Customer Number 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 05725.0505**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
David W. CANNELL et al.) Group Art Unit: 1751
Application No.: 09/838,197) Examiner: E. Elhilo
Filed: April 20, 2001)
For: COMPOSITION AND METHODS FOR)
LANTHIONIZING KERATIN FIBERS)
USING AT LEAST ONE ORGANIC)
NUCLEOPHILE AND AT LEAST ONE)
HYDROXIDE ION GENERATOR)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

In reply to the Final Office Action dated July 22, 2004, the period for response having been extended two months to December 22, 2004 by the accompanying Petition and fee, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 30 of this paper.